UNITED NATIONS

CCPR

International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights

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18 September 1998

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

MEETING OF THE STATES PARTIES TO THE INTERNATIONAL COVENANT ON CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS

Eighteenth Meeting

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 24th MEETING

Held at Headquarters, New York,
on Thursday, 10 September 1998, at 10 a.m.

Temporary Chairman: Mr. CORELL
(Representative of the Secretary-General)

Chairman: Mr. ENKHSAIKHAN (Mongolia)

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CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

The meeting was called to order at 10.10 a.m.

OPENING OF THE MEETING BY THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS

1. The TEMPORARY CHAIRMAN, speaking on behalf of the Secretary-General, declared open the Eighteenth Meeting of the States Parties to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

2. He informed the participants that 140 States had ratified, or acceded or succeeded to, the International Covenant; of that number, 92 had ratified or acceded to the first Optional Protocol, 33 had ratified or acceded to the second Optional Protocol, and 45 had made the declaration under article 41.

3. During its sixty-first, sixty-second and sixty-third sessions, the Human Rights Committee had examined 16 reports submitted to it by States parties under article 40 of the Covenant. The Committee, however, had faced growing difficulties with respect to the submission of initial, periodic or special reports, and at each of its sessions had expressed concern at the increasing number of overdue reports. At its July 1998 session, the Committee had noted that reports from 86 States parties were outstanding; that trend hampered the ability of the Committee to monitor implementation of the Covenant's provisions in many States parties.

4. The Committee had also adopted a general comment on issues relating to the continuity of obligations under the Covenant and had begun its discussion of a draft general comment on freedom of movement. Further agreement had been reached that an earlier general comment on article 3 of the Covenant concerning non-discrimination against women should be updated as soon as possible to reflect developments in the Committee's jurisprudence and as follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women. The Committee would also initiate work with regard to new general comments on articles 2, 4, 21 and 22 of the Covenant.

5. On 23 October 1997, Jamaica had denounced the Optional Protocol pursuant to article 12. Its denunciation had become effective on 23 January 1998. On 26 May 1998, Trinidad and Tobago had denounced the Optional Protocol and reacceded with reservations with effect from 26 August 1998.

6. During the period under review, the Committee had adopted a number of final decisions under the first Optional Protocol, including 27 views. It was a matter of great satisfaction to the Committee that an increasing number of judicial instances at the highest level within States parties had begun to refer to its decisions in their judgements. The Committee had also devoted particular attention to the procedure under which it monitored follow-up to its decision under the Optional Protocol and had adopted a number of measures to improve its effectiveness.

ELECTION OF THE CHAIRMAN

7. Mr. SAGUIER CABALLERO (Paraguay) nominated Mr. Enkhsaikhan (Mongolia) for the office of Chairman.

8. Mr. Enkhsaikhan (Mongolia) was elected Chairman by acclamation.

9. Mr. Enkhsaikhan (Mongolia) took the Chair.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA (CCPR/SP/52)

10. The agenda was adopted.

ELECTION OF OTHER OFFICERS

11. The CHAIRMAN said that he had been informed that Mr. Boisson (Monaco) had been nominated by the Group of Western European and Other States and Mr. Yel'chenko (Ukraine) had been nominated by the Group of Eastern European States to serve as Vice-Chairmen.

12. Mr. Boisson (Monaco) and Mr. Yel'chenko (Ukraine) were elected Vice-Chairmen by acclamation.

ELECTION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLES 28 TO 32 OF THE INTERNATIONAL COVENANT ON CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS, OF NINE MEMBERS OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE, FOR A TERM OF FOUR YEARS (CCPR/SP/51 and Add.1-4)

13. The CHAIRMAN said that document CCPR/SP/51 and Add.1-4 contained the names and curricula vitae of the candidates nominated by States parties to fill the nine vacancies on the Human Rights Committee. He also drew attention to article 30, paragraph 4, and article 31 of the Covenant, which concerned the election of members of the Human Rights Committee.

14. He invited representatives to elect by secret ballot nine members of the Human Rights Committee.

15. At the invitation of the Chairman, Mr. Bijou (Costa Rica) and Mr. Peters (Netherlands) acted as tellers.

16. A vote was taken by secret ballot.

Number of ballot papers:	134
Invalid ballots:	0
Number of valid ballots:	134
Number of representatives voting:	134
Required majority:	68
Number of votes obtained:	
Mr. Amor (Tunisia)	98
Mr. Ando (Japan)	94

Ms. Chanet (France)	92
Mr. Buergenthal (United States of America)	82
Mr. Klein (Germany)	82
Ms. Medina Quiroga (Chile)	74
Mr. Kretzmer (Israel)	69
Mr. Bhagwati (India)	68
Mr. Kolosov (Russian Federation)	66
Mr. Solari Yrigoyen (Argentina)	64
Mr. de Silva (Sri Lanka)	62
Mr. El-Shafei (Egypt)	61
Mr. Bichr (Morocco)	43
Mr. Glèlè Ahanhanzo (Benin)	43
Mr. Al Tarawneh (Jordan)	42
Mr. Imbiki (Madagascar)	40
Mr. Nahum (Ethiopia)	35
Mr. Maema (Lesotho)	31
Mr. Iloki (Republic of Congo)	18

17. Having obtained the required majority, Mr. Amor (Tunisia), Mr. Ando (Japan), Mr. Bhagwati (India), Mr. Buergenthal (United States of America), Ms. Chanet (France), Mr. Klein (Germany), Mr. Kretzmer (Israel) and Ms. Medina Quiroga (Chile) were elected members of the Human Rights Committee for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 1999.

18. The CHAIRMAN said that only eight candidates had obtained the required majority. Under rule 15 of the rules of procedure, he invited representatives to elect a ninth member of the Human Rights Committee in a second ballot. As Mr. Kolosov (Russian Federation) and Mr. Solari Yrigoyen (Argentina) had obtained the largest number of votes in the previous ballot, the second ballot would be restricted to those two candidates.

19. A vote was taken by secret ballot.

Number of ballot papers:	134
Number of valid ballots:	134

Number of representatives voting:	134
Required majority:	68
Number of votes obtained:	
Mr. Solari Yrigoyen (Argentina)	69
Mr. Kolosov (Russian Federation)	65

20 Having obtained the required majority, Mr. Solari Yrigoyen (Argentina) was elected a member of the Human Rights Committee for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 1999.

ELECTION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLES 28 TO 34 OF THE INTERNATIONAL COVENANT ON CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS, TO FILL A VACANCY IN THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE, FOR THE REMAINDER OF A TERM EXPIRING ON 31 DECEMBER 2000 (CCPR/SP/51 and CCPR/SP/53*)

21. The CHAIRMAN said that document CCPR/SP/51 contained biographical information on the candidate submitted by Poland, Mr. Wieruszewski, to fill the vacancy on the Human Rights Committee caused by the resignation of Mr. Türk (Slovenia) for the remainder of a term expiring on 31 December 2000.

22. Mr. ARIAS (Spain) proposed that, there being no other nominations for the vacancy, the Meeting should elect the candidate by acclamation.

23. Mr. Wieruszewski (Poland) was elected a member of the Human Rights Committee by acclamation.

CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

24. The CHAIRMAN declared the Eighteenth Meeting of the States Parties to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights closed.

The meeting rose at 12.55 p.m.

UNITED NATIONS

CCPR

International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights

Distr.
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CCPR/SP/SR.25
29 December 2000

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

MEETING OF THE STATES PARTIES TO THE INTERNATIONAL COVENANT ON CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS

Nineteenth Meeting

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 25th MEETING

Held at Headquarters, New York,
on Monday, 13 September 1999, at 10 a.m.

Temporary Chairman: Mr. NDIAYE
(Representative of the Secretary-General)

Chairman: Mr. SEMAKULA KIWANUKA (Uganda)

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OPENING OF THE MEETING BY THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS

ELECTION OF THE CHAIRMAN

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CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

The meeting was called to order at 10.45 a.m.

OPENING OF THE MEETING BY THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS

1. The TEMPORARY CHAIRMAN, speaking on behalf of the Secretary-General, declared open the Nineteenth Meeting of the States Parties to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

2. He informed the Committee that, following the accession of Burkina Faso, Liechtenstein and South Africa, there were now 144 States parties to the Covenant. Tajikistan, which the Committee had already considered a State party by virtue of succession, had also acceded formally to the Covenant. Moreover, the number of States parties to the Optional Protocol had increased to 95 as a result of the accessions of Burkina Faso, Liechtenstein and Tajikistan, while the number of States parties to the Second Optional Protocol now stood at 38 following the addition of Azerbaijan, Belgium, Georgia, Liechtenstein and Slovakia. Since the Eighteenth Meeting, two more States - Liechtenstein and South Africa - had made the declaration envisaged under article 41, paragraph 1, of the Covenant, bringing the total to 47.

3. The increase in adherence to those and other United Nations human rights treaties reflected a growing consensus in the world about the importance of human rights and the need to further strengthen and extend the observance of international legal norms. During the past year, the Committee had examined initial and periodic reports of 16 States parties, finished the consideration of a general comment on freedom of movement (article 12) and started consideration of draft general comments on gender equality (article 3), and derogations under the Covenant (article 4). The Committee also continued to create distinguished jurisprudence under the Optional Protocol to the Covenant.

4. Since the Eighteenth Meeting, the Committee had adopted 35 "views" under article 5, paragraph 4, of the Optional Protocol, and declared 12 communications admissible and 22 inadmissible. It had also developed a follow-up procedure which enabled it to see the extent to which its recommendations were being implemented. It was a matter of satisfaction that many States parties to the Optional Protocol had amended their laws, paid compensation to victims of human rights violations, released prisoners and provided other effective remedies pursuant to the Committee's views.

ELECTION OF THE CHAIRMAN

5. Mr. ENKHSAIKHAN (Mongolia) nominated Mr. Semakula Kiwanuka (Uganda) for the office of Chairman.

6. Mr. Semakula Kiwanuka (Uganda) was elected Chairman by acclamation.

7. Mr. Semakula Kiwanuka (Uganda) took the Chair.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA (CCPR/SP/55)

8. The agenda was adopted.

CREDENTIALS OF REPRESENTATIVES (CCPR/SP/2/Rev.1)

9. The CHAIRMAN, after drawing attention to rules 2 and 3 of the rules of procedure of the Meeting (CCPR/SP/2/Rev.1), said he had been informed that the Secretary-General had yet to receive proper credentials from a number of States parties represented at the Meeting.

10. He suggested that, in accordance with rule 3, the representatives of the States parties in question should be authorized provisionally to participate in the Meeting. He urged those representatives to ensure that their credentials reached the Secretary-General as soon as possible.

11. It was so decided.

ELECTION OF OTHER OFFICERS

12. The CHAIRMAN said that, in accordance with rule 4 of the rules of procedure, participants in the meeting had to elect one to four Vice-Chairmen from among the representatives of the States parties. He had been informed that Mr. Balestra (San Marino), Ms. Aguiar (Dominican Republic), Mr. Lordkipanidze (Georgia) and Mr. Hadjiargyrou (Cyprus) had been nominated by the Group of Western European and Other States, the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States, the Group of Eastern European States and the Group of Asian States, respectively, to serve as Vice-Chairmen.

13. Mr. Balestra (San Marino), Ms. Aguiar (Dominican Republic), Mr. Lordkipanidze (Georgia) and Mr. Hadjiargyrou (Cyprus) were elected Vice-Chairmen by acclamation.

ELECTION IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLES 28 TO 34 OF THE INTERNATIONAL COVENANT ON CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS, TO FILL A VACANCY IN THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE, FOR THE REMAINDER OF A TERM EXPIRING ON 31 DECEMBER 2002 (CCPR/SP/54 and Add.1 and 2)

14. The CHAIRMAN drew attention to the note by the Secretary-General containing the names and curricula vitae of the candidates put forward by States parties (CCPR/SP/54 and Add.1 and 2). Since the Dominican Republic had withdrawn its candidate, only one candidate was left to fill the vacancy: Mr. Henkin, nominated by the United States. He took it that the Meeting decided to dispense with a secret ballot.

15. It was so decided.

16. Mr. Henkin (United States of America) was elected without a vote as a member of the Human Rights Committee for the remainder of a term ending on 31 December 2002.

17. Ms. AGUIAR (Dominican Republic) said that her Government had decided to withdraw its candidate in order not to depart from the tradition whereby a member who resigned was replaced by a person of the same nationality for the remainder of his or her term. However, she hoped that her country's candidate would be considered for future elections.

CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

18. The CHAIRMAN declared closed the Nineteenth Meeting of the States Parties to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

The meeting rose at 11.05 a.m.